



○ Vol. 58 | ○ Issue #3 | ○ March 2012

- ▶ GREETINGS - TOM DAVIS
- ▶ MINI EXHIBIT - PETE MADSON
- ▶ NEWS & VIEWS - WIL WEST
- ▶ COIN QUIZ - LARRY KIMURA
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UNS Mint Master

Meeting - March 13th / 7:00 P.M.
Location - Columbus Community Center
2531 South 400 East
Salt Lake City, UT

Quote for the month: Wealth consists not in having great possessions, but in having few wants-Epicurus.

The Presidents Message

HELLO EVERYONE -

What a great presentation at our last meeting by Wilf Blum of Deep Blue Marine. Deep Blue Marine is a savage company that works under water mainly searching for ancient sunken ships and treasures. After seeing the artifices and pictures of items that he and his crew have brought up from the ocean it gives you the desire to go join them. Wilf is trying to open a museum at Thanksgiving Point this spring; we might consider a field trip there after it opens. Again we want to thank Wilf for his time with us; we so much appreciated him for coming.

With the dreary days of winter and the political season in full swing isn't nice to have a hobby to fall

back on to get you away from the everyday crises and the around the clock negative news? This is the best time of year to go through you coin collection, add a new piece or research a new area to start collecting. Spend time on the internet doing some research. For an example of a great site, try "ngccoin.com" to learn about coin grading or look at NGC's Coin Encyclopedia which gives historical, summaries, background information and detailed photos of each coin type. There are any other sites with information about coins. The idea is to try something new. If you need more suggestions ask club members what are some of their favorite sites. Have fun, see you March 13th club meeting.

TOM DAVIS

March's Program

March's meeting will feature a presentation on how the club metals are made. And as always there will be the "Coin Quiz", "News & Views", Exhibits, and the Spotlight on a member. Invite someone new to come with you to enjoy the evening. You do get a ticket for the Christmas Dinner for each visitor you bring to club meetings. See you there. March 13th.





Feature Article

Rare coins can be found anywhere!

We have all seen the many 'promo' sets of coins usually sold to novices or non-collectors who think they are getting rare coins for a bargain. These are usually packaged in hard plastic holders or sometimes clamshell velvet presentation boxes. For the most part the coins contained in these sets are common dates, usually well worn, and many times polished or plated in order to make the coin appear as a much higher grade. To anyone who purchases these sets it is 'buyer beware' as the vast majority of the time the cost of these sets far exceeds the value of the coins contained

and for the foreseeable future the coins will probably never increase in value so that the sale of them will exceed the purchase price. Many of these sets do contain interesting historical data and are at least packaged attractively. These factors lead to their continued sale. To be harsh, a comment which I believe to be the case most of the time is that the packaging probably costs more to produce than the coins contained within are worth. Now with that being said, there are exceptions to everything. I recently purchased the above Buffalo Nickel 'Promo Set' displaying the obverse and a reverse from all three mints. This set in my opinion is not worth more than \$2, but I paid \$550.00 for

this set. You ask why? Well in all my years dealing with coins I have never seen anything even close to what happened here. Unfortunately the picture isn't crystal clear but if you look at the nickel in the lower left from the Denver mint you will notice that it is a 1937-D Three-legged Buffalo!!!! Yes someone putting the set together was just picking nickels from a bin and no one ever checked or was even aware of this rarity



and a VF+ coin with 3 legs found its way into the set. The Gray Sheet bid in VF is \$650. The seller knew what he had and was also amazed at this slip. The only similar item which even comes close to this find is a set of 5 worn Morgan Dollars I purchased several years ago in a blue velvet clamshell case. It contained a G+ 1884-CC, another slip by the packaging company but not near as pricey as the 3-legged Buffalo. A good story to remember that rare coins can be found almost anywhere and make sure you don't overlook anything.

Doug Nyholm

The Utah Numismatic Society should now or very soon have a Facebook Page!

http://www.facebook.com/pages/Utah-Numismatic-Society/119074761546154?ref=tn_tnmn
If the above link doesn't work search for 'Utah Numismatic Society'

Coin Of The Month

2000 Cheerios Dollar



Enhanced Tail Feathers



Normal Tail Feathers

The 2000 release of the new dollar coin created excitement among coin collectors. General Mills had contracted with the mint to include a 2000 dated cent in each of its boxes of Cheerios and in every 2000th box they would include a new 2000 dollar coin. The rush was on to be the first on your block to acquire a 2000 dated coin and no thought was given to the possibility that there might be a die variety to be found. Years later it was discovered that some (not all) dollars in the Cheerios boxes were different! The tail feathers on the reverse were definitely enhanced and show significantly more detail. Prices topped out at almost \$35,000. The reverse is not visible in the original packaging and to remove the coin from its holder only to find it to be a normal strike destroyed the collectable value of it being attributed to a cheerios box. Even without the enhanced tail there was collector value due to the original packaging. Finally it was discovered that there was an obverse die marker which could be used to identify the enhanced tail feather variety. Shown above is a picture detailing a tiny die polish line protruding from the bust of Sacagawea which can be seen with a 5x loop. So now you can check if your Cheerios dollar is the rare one without removing it from its original holder.

COUNTERFEIT PANDA'S

Struck Copies



With the advent of the popularity of Chinese silver and gold Panda's comes those who manufacture counterfeits for profit. I have seen buckets of fake silver Panda's and also seen fakes of those issued in gold. The fakes even have proof-like surfaces similar to the original but are almost never made from pure gold or silver. They are usually plated but will be off weight. Some are even magnetic but don't rely on this alone for identification. Additionally, I have seen a counterfeit gold of proper weight but upon inspection the coin was noticeably thicker than a genuine planchet of the same denomination. This may be a tactic for silver fakes also. Finally, check all the devices and lettering against an original. Some fakes vary from the original.



Pick Up Point

Weight

Frequency Encountered
Common

Identification Difficulty
Easy to Moderate

Value
Medium

Quiz!



What is shown above?

Where was it issued?

It is the back of a brownback national banknote. 4178 is the charter number for the National Bank of Commerce in St. Louis MO

1. On some circulating Canadian coins there is a 'P' prominently displayed below the bust. What does this indicate?
 - A. Philadelphia Mint
 - B. Commemorative Theme
 - C. Designers Initial
 - D. Plated composition
2. What is the key date in the Canadian Voyager Silver Dollar set?
 - A. 1935
 - B. 1945
 - C. 1948
 - D. 1977
3. Some Canadian dollars dated 1950-52 are referred to as 'Arnprior dollars'. Where does the term Arnprior come from?
 - A. The designer
 - B. A company in Canada
 - C. French for 'water lines'
 - D. The person who discovered Canada
4. Why is the 1921 Canadian half dollar rare?
 - A. Only 100 were struck
 - B. Demand was low so most were melted
 - C. Made only for presentation
 - D. They were stolen from the mint
5. The 'C' mintmark on Canadian coins indicates what?
 - A. Canada
 - B. Winnipeg
 - C. Ottawa
 - D. Montreal

Answers to last month's questions. 1) 1817 2) 1894 3) 1847 & 1883 4) Striking Gold Coins 5) 25c, 50c, 1 Dollar

Refreshments for our March meeting - Courtesy of Guy & Craig Eroh



WHERE DOES THE COIN BELOW COME FROM?



- HINT -

THIS COIN IS FROM A COUNTRY IN NORTH AMERICA WHICH NO LONGER EXISTS.

UNS 2012 Schedule

March

How Club medals are made

April

Bourse

May

UNS Birthday & Medals

Voting

June

Youth Night

July

Picnic

August

Auction

September

Symbolism on US coins by Lee McKenzie

October

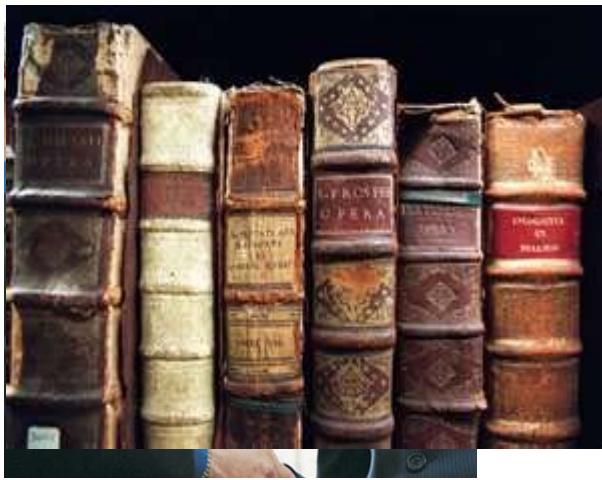
Roman Coins by David Larsen

November

Elections & Bourse

December

Dinner



Book Review

"The Collector's Handbook"

This is a new 6th edition of a very informative booklet by Heritage. It is printed on glossy paper in a 7x5 inch format in full color. A multitude of topics on collections are outlined in four parts.

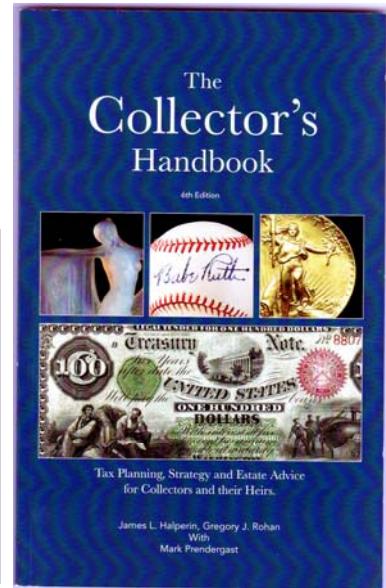
- 1) Administering
- 2) Estate Planning
- 3) Evaluating and
- 4) Disposing.

Its 150 pages are full of information on all types of collectables. This book is reasonably priced and would make a fine addition

to your library.
Doug Nyholm

Available from Heritage Galleries.
Steve Ivy Press
Price \$14.95

Sometimes complementary copies available upon request



In addition to the 1793 large cent which joined the million dollar club at FUN in January an 1829 large date \$5 also broke the million dollar barrier selling for \$1.38 million.

Prizes of the Month

Promptness:

Silver Ike Dollar

Membership:

1960 Franklin Half

Junior:

Tanzania FDC & Coin
Set

Prizes-

1933 Gold Eagle
Fantasy

1993 JFK Fantasy Gold
1900 Morgan Dollar

2007 BU Little Rock \$

1867 Two Cent Piece

1893 Columbian Half
Constantius Gallus

Bronze Ancient

2000-P Mass Qtr.
Engraver Set

5 Cordoba Nicaragua
Foreign Note

1977 Australian Mint
Set

1883 N/C "V" Nickel

1979-S PCGS PR69RD
DCAM Lincoln Cent

1984 US Mint Set

Encased Colorado 25c

1942-D Mercury Dime

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WHEN & WHERE WE MEET
SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:00 PM
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2531 SOUTH 400 EAST / SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84115

ANNUAL DUES:

FAMILY \$25 ADULT (18 AND OLDER) \$15 JUNIOR \$5



Young Numismatists

KEEPING TRACK OF YOUR COLLECTION WITH IMAGES

Last month we discussed the need to document the contents of our collections in a consistent and disciplined way. For those who attended the February meeting, I provided a simple inventory sheet to assist in the documenting or inventory process and will continue to make it available to anybody who wants a copy. I also plan to email a copy of the Microsoft Word document to all active members of the club in the near future. This month, I would like to discuss improving the process with the addition of images or photos. Without question, the old adage 'A picture is worth a thousand words' is very appropriate to our collection inventory or documentation process. But, what should be imaged or photographed and how do we do it? The decision on what should be imaged or photographed is yours, but perhaps should be based on value or importance to your collection. Thus, you may decide to include pictures of items that exceed a certain dollar value. In addition, you may decide to include items that have special meaning or significance to you, regardless of dollar value. Whether you decide to do just some or to do all, your decision is the right one because it's your collection and documentation. Now, how do we do it?

Computer technology provides us with some rather easy solutions. The

first and perhaps easiest way is to simply scan/copy on a multi function printer, scanner, copier (PSC). Any PSC with photo quality capability will work, but I would suggest using the highest quality setting and color copy mode. Digital photos can be obtained with either a camera capable cell phone or a digital camera. While the camera will provide higher quality images, both will provide excellent images for our documentation purposes. For the cell phone, select the camera mode, adjust for the best picture, take the picture, and email to your email account. I do this for every coin I buy at shows, so I have pictures for a lost and found effort. Emailing does not delete the image from the cell phone memory. With a digital camera, adjust as necessary for the best image and take the picture. Like the cell phone, camera images will be available for viewing on the camera as long as the memory card or stick is in the camera. At your convenience, import the images taken to your computer's photo program, edit as desired and insert into your item inventory record or print pictures and attach to your item inventory sheet. Don't be afraid to experiment and remember practice makes perfect.

PHIL CLARK



This month's coin pictured above is a 1944-D Walking Liberty Half. What grade would you assign to it?

Last month's coin, pictured below, was a 1952 Franklin Half Dollar. This coin was graded MS64FBL by PCGS. I question the grade because of heavy bag marks on face and lack of bell lines left of crack. It sold for \$52.00 with free S/H. What do you think?

